



# Sun Valley Figure Skating Club

## Club Business

The SVFSC Annual meeting was held Tuesday, Nov 15<sup>th</sup>. A great BIG thank you to outgoing Board Members Peggy Baker, Tim Semones, and Kathy Crosson.

### Welcome new Board Members!

Lucy Bourret  
Robin Sias

Joan Curtis  
Bex Wilkinson

### New Officers

President: Joan Lamb  
Vice President: Brad Cleveland  
Secretary/Treasurer: Becca Hemingway



## SVFSC Junior Skaters Annual Holiday Extravaganza!

Don't Miss It.  
Mark your Calendar!

All junior club members and Fall class skaters, you're invited to celebrate the season on

**Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.**  
Outdoor Rink

Pizza, dessert, fun, games, surprises and mini holiday recitals performed by our fall class participants!

## Sun Valley Winter Games

### USFS Competition Basic Skills - Senior Events

February 11, 2011  
Application deadline: January 9, 2012

### USFS Winter Test Session

February 12  
Application deadline January 9, 2012

## Sun Valley Company's

**Silver & Gold Ice Show**  
**December 21, 2011 @ 6:00 p.m.**

Starring: Evan Lysacek, Sasha Cohen, Nathan Chen, Kim Navarro & Brent Bommentre, and Irina Grigorian!



## Effective, Affordable "Skate with Us" Classes Are Now Available

### Basic Skills - Pre Juvenile Level Skaters!

You asked for it... We did it! We made skating less expensive! These fun, affordable classes are taught by rotating coaches, so skaters may take advantage of a variety of coaching styles and benefit from all of the special teaching skills our rink has to offer. Skaters will rapidly improve their power, jumps, spins, edges and basic skills and parents will **love the price!** Junior Competitive Class sessions are 10 weeks long, **Mondays and Wednesday from 4-5 pm** (Skaters Free Skate 4 and up), **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-6 pm** Advanced Basic Skills skaters (Basic 2 - Free Skate 3 level). Don't miss this great opportunity made possible by your Club's "Battle of the Blades" fundraiser and the generous support of Sun Valley Company! More information and class sign up forms available in the club office.

**Sign up now for the January 9-March 18 Session!**



### Volunteers Needed!

The SVFSC is in need of Chairpersons and/or Co Chairs for the following events in 2012:

- Winter Games, February 11th
- Sun Valley Summer Championships, July 19-22nd
- Battle of the Blades, Early September

For details, contact Holly at  
[info@sunvalleyfsc.com](mailto:info@sunvalleyfsc.com)

Skate with Us includes ice time!

**Jr. Competitive Classes: \$7.50/class**

**Fantastic Friday: \$150/10 week session**

**Adult classes, Wednesdays @ 6:15p.m.  
ONLY \$15.00**



### THE IDAHO FALLS FIGURE SKATING CLUB

**\*\*\*1<sup>st</sup> Annual Snake River Skatfest, January 20-22, 2012\*\*\***

To be held at the recently renovated Joe Marmo/Wayne Lehto Ice Rink in Idaho Falls, ID  
**Open to ALL levels**

Call 208-716-1523 with questions. Test session held in conjunction with the competition.



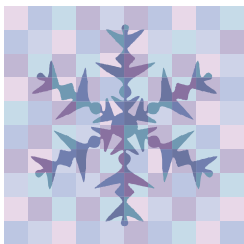
### A few words about the great new classes from parents:

**Robin Sias:** “There is something motivating, encouraging and fun about learning in a group setting. This has certainly been the case for Lane and Blake Letourneau during the new Fall Sun Valley FSC group classes. The girls have been skating each Monday and Wednesday from 4 – 5 p.m., working on everything from clean, consistent axels, to double jumps, spins and stroking. Working on these skills with a group of friends, training at a similar level, has really pushed them to achieve and improve in a supportive, encouraging atmosphere. Each time I have been by the rink during the classes, the skaters are laughing, smiling and cheering each

other on. They have had the amazing opportunity to learn from coaches including Lisa-Marie, Dawn, Michele, Julie and Holly — each professional bringing their own experience, expertise and tips to the group. Hearing a fresh explanation can be all it takes for a new skill to “click” for a skater. The result of these classes for my daughters has been not only an improvement in their skating, but a renewed motivation and enthusiasm for the sport. As the parent paying the bills for two serious skaters, I am a huge fan of the new group classes!

For the same cost as a large coffee and pastry, I can pay for one full hour of outstanding training for one of my daughters. As we will all concede, raising a skater is a large financial commitment. I am grateful for these top-level classes, from which my children are learning so much and that are so very affordable. I highly recommend, no matter your skater’s level, finding the right group class for him or her. They are available to every member of the club and are incredibly worthwhile and enjoyable. Come join the fun and watch your skater grow!”

**Becca Hemingway:** “My kids, Emma and Alex Stuessi, love this program. They look forward to skating with their buddies and have already made great progress with the support of the program’s many capable instructors. The improvement in their motivation level and skating skills, coupled with the limited impact on my bank balance, has made me a true group convert. I highly recommend these classes to everyone!”



### For more information about Winter Classes

Sun Valley FSC Office @ 208-622-8020  
Sun Valley Skate Center Desk @ 208-622-2194

Email: [info@sunvalleyfsc.com](mailto:info@sunvalleyfsc.com)

Visit: [www.sunvalleyfsc.com](http://www.sunvalleyfsc.com)

### USFS Test Results – Congratulations!

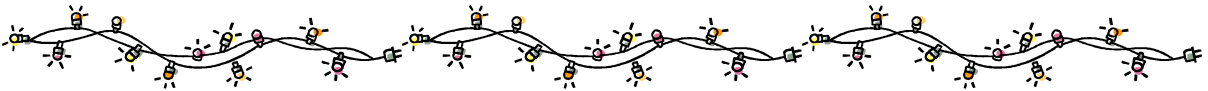
Several Sun Valley skaters participated in United States Figure Skating Association test sessions in Boise and in Ogden on November 6 and November 13. The Sun Valley Figure Skating Club boasted 100% pass rate in Boise, with each skater who tested passing at least one USFS test attempted. The Club also had an impressive pass rate in Ogden. The following skaters passed Free Skate tests, moving up one level in their competitive rank: **Novice Free Skate - Alexandra Harten; Juvenile Free Skate- Travis Flynt and Tara Ware; Pre-Juvenile Free Skate - Emma Stuessi; Preliminary Free Skate - Lane Letourneau, Katie Peters, Alex Stuessi, and Blake Letourneau; Pre-Preliminary Free Skate – Aurora Wilkinson, Karsyn Gerringa, and Prescott Potter.** The following skaters passed Moves in the Field tests: **Novice Moves in the Field – Telar McClure; Intermediate Moves in the Field – Katie Peters, Grace Hoffman, and Sheldon Gentling; Juvenile Moves-Travis Flynt and Tara Ware; Pre- Juvenile Moves in the Field – Lane LeTourneau; Pre-Preliminary Moves- Murphy Kendall, Jessica Blackburn, Saba Grossman and Prescott Potter.** Coaches Holly Wheeler and Judy Blumberg accompanied the skaters to the Boise test session, and Coach Darlin Baker accompanied the skaters to the Ogden competition and test session.



## The Wasatch Freedom Classic

Seven local skaters travelled to Ogden, Utah last Saturday to compete in the 2011 Wasatch Freedom Classic. Offering Snow-Plow Sam through Preliminary level figure skating events, the Freedom Classic's small competitive groups provided a great opportunity for the Sun Valley Figure Skating Club's younger skaters to hone their skills in competitive skating. Competing at the Pre-Preliminary level, **Sheldon Gentling** won her Showcase event and placed fourth in Free Skate. **Murphy Kendall** won her Basic Program Free Skate event at the Basic Skills Basic 6 level. Placing second were **Aurora Wilkinson**- Free Skate event at the Non Test level, **Prescott Potter**- Free Skate and Artistic events at the Basic Skills Free Skate 5-6 level, and **Christine DuFur** - Free Skate at the Basic Skills Free Skate 4 level. DuFur also placed third her Artistic event. In addition, **Jessica Blackburn** took fourth and **Saba Grossman** fifth in the Basic Program Free Skate event at the Basic 8 level. Pre -preliminary was the highest competitive level for Sun Valley skaters at this competition.

Wasatch Freedom Classic Photo ID: Front to back/left to right: Christine Dufur, Prescott Potter, Sheldon Gentling, Saba Grossman, Murphy Kendall, Aurora Wilkinson, Jessica Blackburn



## **Pacific Coast Sectionals Results**



Congratulations to Shayna Moellenburg for representing the Sun Valley Figure Skating Club at Pacific Coast Sectionals for the third consecutive year! Moellenburg travelled to Salt Lake City November 15-19 as the reigning Northwest Regional Senior Ladies Silver Medalist. She successfully completed several difficult jumps and jump combinations and was awarded extra points for her choreographed spirals, finishing 11<sup>th</sup> in Senior Ladies. Senior Ladies is the highest competitive free skate level for women's individual events. Moellenburg's previous figure skating titles include Northwest Regional Novice Ladies Silver Medalist in 2010 and Northwest Regional Junior Ladies Champion in 2011. She has worked hard for her accomplishments. Since moving to Sun Valley to train with former Lake Placid Olympian Lisa-Marie Allen her daily regimen has included both off ice and on-ice training. The Community School eleventh grader often sacrifices school trips and other social events for her sport, but she prioritizes her education. The Community School works with Moellenburg to create an academic program adaptable to her training schedule. Allen, Moellenburg's primary coach, created Moellenburg's Short program and her Free Skate program with the assistance of internationally renowned choreographer and local coach Gia Guddat. Moellenburg is a member of the Sun Valley Summer Ice Show Ensemble Cast and a recurring soloist in Sun Valley's Christmas Eve on Ice: The Nutcracker.

And..... CONGRATULATIONS to Chloe Lewis and Logan Bye, Associate Members of the SVFSC and the 2012 Pacific Coast Sectional Novice Dance Champions! This qualifies Chloe and Logan to compete at the **2012 US Junior Figure Skating Championships** in East Lansing MI, Dec 10-14. The team is coached by Judy Blumberg and Patti Gottwein.

**Good Luck Chloe and Logan!**



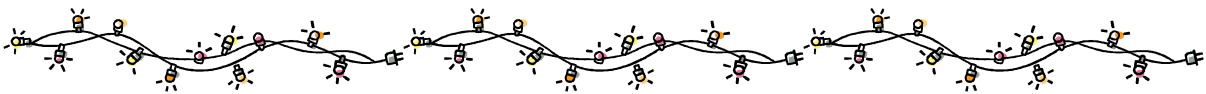
## Nutcracker on Ice 2011

**TECH & DRESS RUNS ARE MANDATORY FOR ALL SKATERS.**



Thursday Dec. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	TECH RUN (INDOOR RINK)	5:00pm – 7:00pm
Friday Dec. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	COSTUME CHECK (INDOOR RINK)	4:30pm
Friday Dec. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	DRESS REHEARSAL (OUTDOOR RINK)	5:30pm – 6:30pm
Saturday Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	COSTUME CHECK (INDOOR RINK)	4:00pm
Saturday Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	NUTCRACKER ON ICE	5:20pm

For your convenience, the Group Number Rehearsal Schedule is posted at the rink, or contact Scott Irvine, Ice Rink Manager & Ice Show Director at [sirvine@sunvalley.com](mailto:sirvine@sunvalley.com).



### Gia Guddat choreographs “Kaleidoscope” for Fox TV

Gia Guddat choreographed “Kaleidoscope” for the 3rd year in a row. The show aired nationally on Fox TV on Thanksgiving Day. Olympic Champions and cancer survivors, Dorothy Hamill and Scott Hamilton, returned as hosts, along with many figure skating superstars and Grammy award winning musical talent. The 2-hour live event was taped in Charlotte, North Carolina to a sold-out crowd. The show is a holiday

celebration of skating, song and survivorship. Kaleidoscope was the highest rated skating broadcast for the past 2 years. The show provides information for Americas 12 million + cancer survivors and their caregivers. Gia states, “I like to be part of a show that is both entertaining and educational. I also like the challenge of choreographing for a live audience as well as TV cameras.” This years show included, Nancy Kerrigan, Johnny Weir, Sasha Cohen, Kurt Browning, Paul Wylie, Joannie Rochette, Elvis Stojko and Sinead & John Kerr, as well as American Idol Winner, Jordin Sparks, Grammy award winner Patti Labelle and Country star of the “Footloose” movie.... Hunter Hayes.

Gia also choreographed the 75th Sun Valley Summer ice show and was the Co-Artistic Director of Battle of the Blades. Gia is on the Board of Directors of “Pro Skaters” and is the choreographer of this years “Nutcracker on Ice”.





## Ask Mr. Blade

*“Ask Mr. Blade” is a new feature for the newsletter designed to answer common questions for parents new to skating. Check it out monthly for useful information!*

**Question:** What is my child’s skating level and how does it relate to testing?

**Answer:** Your child’s skating level is his or her Free Skate, Free Dance or Pairs test level. US Figure Skating defines a system of "tests" which allow a skater to progress through a sequence of logical steps in his or her skating development. The Free Skate, Free Dance and Pairs tests also establish a benchmarking structure for competitive purposes. All US Figure Skating sanctioned competitions group the skaters according to levels of tests passed. This allows skaters of similar abilities to compete against each other.

In very general terms, there are 2 types of testing defined by the US Figure Skating: "Skate with US" (Basic Skills tests) and the more advanced "Judged" tests.

**Basic Skills Tests:** Within the “Skate with Us” Basic Skills (Snow Plow Sam, Basic 1-8 and Free Skate 1- 6) program, testing is used to advance skaters from level to level. This testing is usually performed in front of the skater's instructors and is very informal. Passage through the Basic Skills program is not required for competitive skaters. It is not uncommon for some skaters to start at this introductory level and spend a year or less here before moving on to the traditional judged tests. Some competitions that offer beginner-level events use Basic Skills “Skate with Us” levels to help group competitors.

**Judged Tests:** A formal test structure is designed for skaters who advance past the Basic Skills tests. These tests are judged by US Figure skating officials; appointed judges at formal "test sessions". The results are forwarded to the US Figure Skating which keeps official records of each skater's test accomplishments. The test level passed for Free Skate, Free Dance and Pairs directly indicates the skater’s competitive level.

In each skating discipline, many levels of achievement are defined. See the US Figure Skating rulebook test requirements for more information on the specifics for each level. A skater's age does not figure into his or her skating level -- only the demonstration of his/her proficiency through the passing of **Free Skate, Free Dance or Pairs** test (Note: For competitive purposes, there are some age limits placed upon skaters at certain levels -- see Competitive Qualification Requirements for more information).



### **New Official SVFSC Club Jackets for Christmas**

(aka “Where In the World are Those Dang Jackets???”)

Never has the saying “All good things in time” been more true than with the new Sun Valley Figure Skating Club’s new jackets! In the works since last spring, the new Mondor jacket, chosen by the Junior Board, has a longer, sleeker, slim-fit, “Lulu-like” style. The sleeves have thumb holes that

can be used for one look or folded up for another. Contemporary and fashionable, the jackets will sport a new, more colorful logo with a Baldy silhouette in white-on-black to distinguish our unique location. A sun and text in golden yellow are offset by a blue sky with a bit of teal to make it “pop”. The colors are bright, but tasteful, against the black background, and the distinct Baldy logo will set our club apart!



The original plan was to unveil the new jackets at the Summer Competition. Sadly, we have had one frustrating set-back after another in our attempt to get the jackets here. Most recently, Mondor sent the wrong jackets. There is apparently some confusion over a change in model number from the style originally ordered. We have asked for Scott Irvine’s help, and we understand that he and Daisy are working hard to get the jackets here in time to be embroidered for Christmas. **If the jackets don’t arrive in time, we suggest wrapping a gift card for your skater promising a new Club Jacket in the New Year... It will be worth the wait!**



**Happy Holidays to my favorite skater!**

**One new SVFSC Official Club Jacket**

**Love, \_\_\_\_\_**

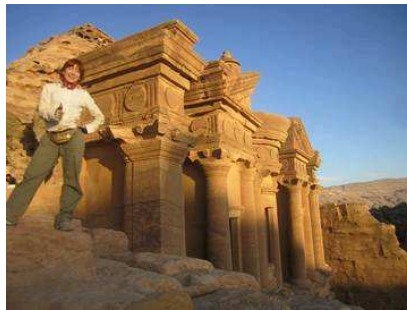
Please note: SVFSC will no longer buy separate jackets for Regionals attendees. However, all members who purchase the new Club jacket, who attended the 2011 (Boise) and 2012 (Spokane) Regional Championships or Regional Non-quals, will have a special patch sewn to the sleeve! Additional patches will be ordered and sewn to official Club jackets for future Regionals participants. *All members should note that our bylaws follow the skate club tradition of requiring official Club jackets to be worn by members representing SVFSC at both Club and US Figure Skating sanctioned events, such as competitions and test sessions, so a brand new club jacket is the perfect gift for SVFSC skaters!* Info on availability and pricing will be e-mailed as it becomes available and will be posted on the Club Bulletin Board. Keep your fingers crossed that our new jackets will get here soon!



Hugs From Anita:

Hello Skaters! Hope you are all having a good competitive season. We will have a new Olympic size ice rink in a mall here in Eilat on March 1 2012..Ice Park Eilat. SO come visit, skate, see the Holy Land, Petra and Wow on ICE! (See pictures below)

Nameste,  
Anita



## Upcoming Events and Calendar Notes

- SVFSC Junior Skaters Holiday Extravaganza, Friday, December 9, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.
- Sun Valley's Silver & Gold Ice Show, Wednesday, December 21, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
- Nutcracker on Ice Show, December 24, 2011 at 5:20 p.m.
- Skate with Us Winter Session, classes begin January 9, 2012
- Idaho Falls Figure Skating Club's 'Snake River Skatefest' January 20-22, 2012
- Sun Valley Winter Games, February 11, 2012 (Registration deadline 1/9/2012)
- SVFSC to host a USFS Test Session on February 12, 2012 (Registration deadline 1/9/2012)
- Indoor Rink Closure (due to convention) in March
- Sun Valley Summer Championships, July 19-22, 2012
- Battle of the Blades fundraiser, Early September 2012

Questions about the club can be emailed to: [info@sunvalleyfsc.com](mailto:info@sunvalleyfsc.com).

Newsletter submissions are due the last week of the month. Suggestions are greatly appreciated!

Please send comments and submissions to Karen Hoffman at [roadschoolers@gmail.com](mailto:roadschoolers@gmail.com).

### Club Member Information

Information and updates regarding competitions, tests, past newsletter, membership, and more can be found on the SVFSC website at: <http://sunvalleyfsc.com>

**Happy Holidays!**